

Message Text

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13

ACTION INR-10

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ADP-00 EUR-25 EB-11 OMB-01 TRSE-00

AID-20 RSR-01 SCEM-02 /081 W

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R 140514 Z APR 73

FM AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1844

C O N F I D E N T I A L TEHRAN 2383

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: EAID, EIND, IRUR

SUBJECT: SOVIET AID TO ISFAHAN STEEL MILL

REF: A. STATE 062951 B. TEHRAN 2264

1. EMBASSY NOW ATTEMPTING OBTAIN NEW SOVIET AID AGREEMENT STATE REFTEL. NOT POSSIBLE DEFINITELY ANSWER DEPT' S QUERY ON TOTAL OF CREDITS UNTIL THIS CAN BE COMPARED 1968 AGREEMENT, HOWEVER, EMBASSY' S PRELIMINARY UNDERSTANDING IS THAT DESIGN OF PRESENT IGAT PIPELINE PERMITS EXPANSION (QUOTE LOOPING UNQUOTE AND ADDITIONAL PUMPING FACILITIES) SUFFICIENT TO PERMIT DELIVERIES LARGE ENOUGH TO REPAY SOVIET CREDITS FOR INCREASE IN STEEL MILL CAPACITY TO MAXIMUM OF 1.9 MILLION TONS. FURTHER INCREASE TO 4 MILLION TONS WOULD REQUIRE CONSTRUCTING ENTIRELY NEW SECOND PIPELINE
DUPLICATING PRESENT IGAT. ON BASIS RECENT INTERVIEW WITH NIGC HEAD MOSSADEGHI (TEHRAN REFTEL) EMBASSY BELIEVES SECOND PIPELINE UNLIKELY BE BUILT FORESEEABLE FUTURE.

TEHRAN REFTEL ALSO EXPLAINS THAT EXPANSION PRESENT IGAT INVOLVES RENEGOTIATION OF GAS PRICE. THIS CONNECTION, 1966 AGREEMENT TEXT IN EMBASSY PEGS VALUE OF RUBLE AS .987412 GRAMS PUR GOLD, RIAL .117316 GRAMS. ON THIS BASIS, NIGC FIGURE 1 RUBLE EQUALS \$1.11.

3. EMBASSY HAS NOT COPY 1968 AGREEMENT. WOULD APPRECIATE DEPARTMENT POUCHING COPY ASAP.

HELMS

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*** Current Handling Restrictions *** n/a

*** Current Classification *** CONFIDENTIAL

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
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Draft Date: 14 APR 1973
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: golinofr
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Drafter: n/a
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Errors: n/a
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